

UTAH - WEEKLY INFLUENZA TEXT SUMMARY

Influenza Activity in Utah:

Laboratory confirmed influenza has been detected in Utah. This includes 293 hospitalizations, the majority in high risk categories. 74% of hospitalizations have been identified as Type A, 19% Type B, and 7% unknown. Influenza-like illness levels continue to increase in many areas. This time last year, 176 hospitalizations had been reported to the UDOH for the 2006-07 influenza season.

As of 3/05/2008, no pediatric influenza-associated deaths has been reported in Utah for the current season.

National influenza surveillance data can be found at www.cdc.gov/flu. Please note, states determine for themselves how to estimate weekly influenza activity. The classification system used in Utah primarily serves to provide a geographical description of how influenza is circulating in the state and not season severity. Utah is currently reporting "widespread" activity.

This website will be updated every Wednesday at 1 PM.

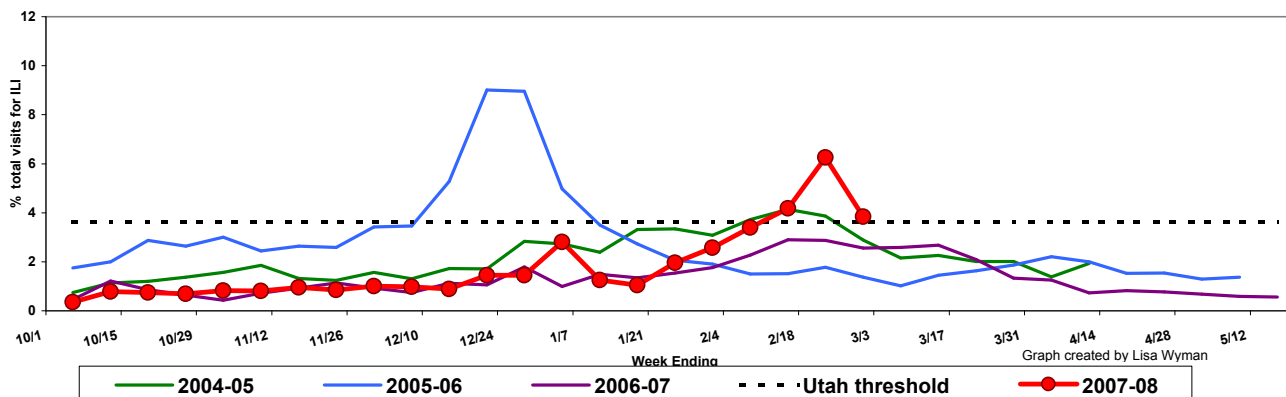
INFLUENZA PREVENTION

How to protect yourself and others:

- Utahns should get an influenza vaccine.
**Contact your provider or the Immunization Hotline (1-800-275-0659) to locate an influenza shot.
- All Utahns should practice "respiratory etiquette" to reduce the spread of respiratory diseases.
** Stay away from other people when you are sick.
** Cover your mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue away
** Wash your hands.
- We urge schools and employers to be supportive of these preventive measures.

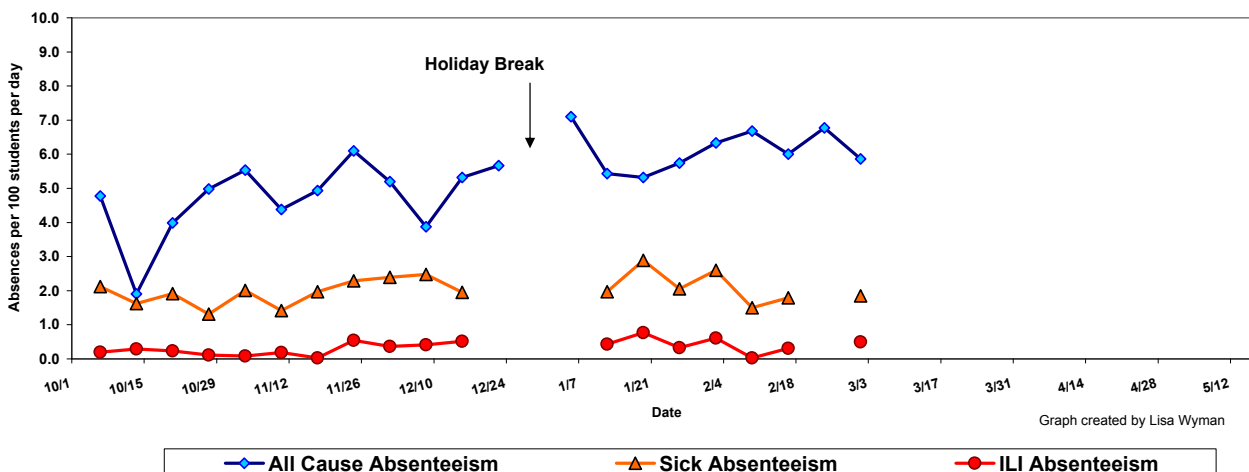
Influenza Activity for Current Season and Past Three Seasons

Figure 1. Percentage of visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) reported by sentinel providers- Utah, 2007-2008 and previous three influenza seasons



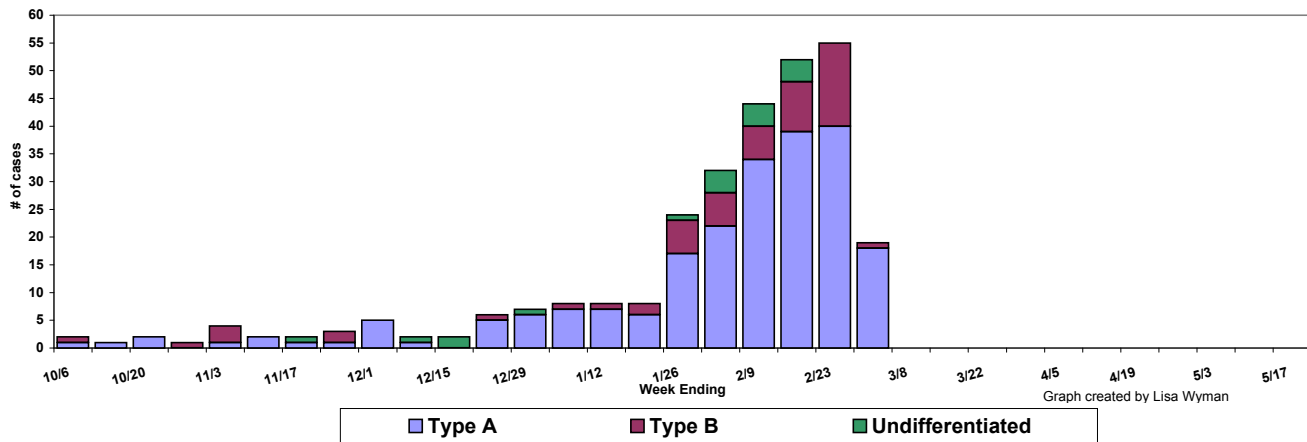
Student Absenteeism by Week

Figure 2. Rates for absences due to all causes and sickness, and influenza-like illness (ILI)- Utah, 2007-2008 influenza season



Hospitalizations by Virus Type and Week

Figure 3. Number of laboratory-confirmed, influenza-associated hospitalizations, by influenza virus type and week of event - Utah, 2007-2008 influenza season



Cumulative Influenza Hospitalizations

Laboratory confirmed, cumulative influenza-associated hospitalization numbers- Utah, 2007-2008 influenza season and previous three seasons

